



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

NEWS RELEASE

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WKCE scores up, especially math

Achievement of economically disadvantaged and African-American students shows improvement

MADISON—Overall scores increased or held steady on Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations (WKCE) administered in fall 2006, with positive gains in mathematics at almost all grades.

“We are on the right track,” said State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster in announcing WKCE results. “Despite increased poverty in Wisconsin, we saw gains at nearly every grade level in mathematics and rising or stable scores for reading on our statewide testing.”

The percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in reading and mathematics increased or held steady from the previous year for the “all student” group across all grades. When reviewed by subgroups, mathematics performance showed the largest improvements from last year in grades four through seven.

The percentage of students eligible for free or reduced-price school meals averaged 32 percent among students tested through the Wisconsin Student Assessment System for the 2006-07 school year. That indicator of student poverty is up about 1.4 percent from last year and nearly 6 percent from four years ago. Mathematics performance for economically disadvantaged students showed improvement over four years for grades four, eight, and 10, and reading scores improved in grades eight and 10.

WKCE/WAA Mathematics Performance—All Students

Grade	2005-06	2006-07
3	73	74
4	73	78
5	72	75
6	72	76
7	73	78
8	73	74
10	70	70

NOTE: Percent of all students scoring proficient and advanced.

Percentage of Students Who Are Economically Disadvantaged

	2003-04	2006-07
American Indian	51.56	61.96
Asian	58.40	57.15
Black	73.54	76.12
Hispanic	62.12	72.53
White	16.56	21.11
All Students	26.56	32.45

NOTE: Economically disadvantaged students are those who qualify for free or reduced-price school meals.

(more)

“At the state and district levels, educators are striving to raise achievement for all students,” Burmaster said. “Our efforts are showing results.”

Burmaster praised Milwaukee for implementing programs and practices to meet the academic needs of its students. The district reported stable scores or one-year gains in the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced in reading and math in all but 10th grade.

At the state level, a comparison of the percentages of students scoring proficient and advanced by racial/ethnic group and by English proficiency and economic and disability status showed improvement in math achievement from fall 2005 to fall 2006 at many grade levels. Reading scores posted some gains, with African-American students showing the most progress. The percentage of African-American students scoring proficient or advanced in mathematics and reading increased from last year at all grade levels except 10th grade, which stayed the same for reading and dropped 3 percentage points in math.

“This year’s scores show some closing of the achievement gap in Milwaukee. Statewide, however, achievement gaps between economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and their peers are still apparent. We must continue our efforts to provide a quality education for every child,” Burmaster stressed. “Our school districts need stable funding that allows them to provide early learning opportunities, smaller class sizes, support for quality educators, and innovative programming, all part of our New Wisconsin Promise.”

To meet requirements of federal education law, the Department of Public Instruction administered the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations-Criterion Referenced Tests (WKCE-CRTs) and the Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities (WAA-SwD) in November 2006 to approximately 441,000 students. This is the second year of statewide testing in grades three through eight and grade 10 under federal law. Nearly every student in the tested grades took exams in reading and mathematics. Students in grades four, eight, and 10 also took exams in language arts, science, and social studies, as required by state law.

Results from the WKCE/WAA will be used for federal No Child Left Behind accountability purposes in the state’s annual adequate yearly progress (AYP) evaluation. Schools and school districts will receive preliminary notification of their AYP status in mid-June.

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ATTACHMENTS: Tables with additional information about statewide performance on Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations-Criterion Referenced Tests and Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities follow.

NOTES: Data on school and district-level performance are available from local school districts and on the Department of Public Instruction website at < <http://dpi.wisconsin.gov/sig/index.html> >. Click on “Data Analysis.” This news release is available electronically at < http://www.dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2007_48.pdf >.

**2006-07 Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations and
Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities**

3rd Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	58,187	860	81	72	74	60	63	86
Mathematics	58,719	721	74	62	71	42	57	81
4th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	57,788	952	82	75	73	60	64	87
Language Arts	57,763	842	77	68	72	53	61	83
Mathematics	58,446	774	78	70	77	47	62	84
Science	58,091	605	77	66	70	44	57	85
Social Studies	58,032	582	91	87	85	76	80	95
5th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	59,019	857	84	77	76	62	68	90
Mathematics	59,415	743	75	65	74	43	56	82
6th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	60,066	818	85	78	75	61	68	91
Mathematics	60,156	773	76	61	76	40	57	82
7th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	62,610	852	85	77	74	58	66	89
Mathematics	62,855	847	78	69	75	43	61	86
8th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	64,080	866	84	76	79	62	67	88
Language Arts	64,046	814	62	42	48	33	40	69
Mathematics	64,353	829	74	59	74	39	55	81
Science	64,085	738	74	60	62	37	51	82
Social Studies	63,999	731	82	72	78	52	65	89
10th Grade	Tested WKCE	Tested with WAA for Students with Disabilities*	Percent Proficient and Advanced					
			All Students	American Indian	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White
Reading	69,693	801	74	60	55	39	47	81
Language Arts	69,242	764	71	53	58	38	46	77
Mathematics	69,956	785	70	50	60	25	43	78
Science	69,351	730	72	55	55	25	43	80
Social Studies	69,258	715	76	59	65	39	52	83

* Wisconsin Alternate Assessment (WAA) for Students with Disabilities.

WKCE/WAA Performance by Racial/Ethnic Group for Two Years at Grades 3-8 and 10

Percent of Students Scoring Proficient and Advanced

3rd Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	80	81	75	72	72	74	58	60	65	63	86	86
Mathematics	73	74	62	62	71	71	37	42	55	57	79	81
Enrollment	58,843	59,616	809	853	2,146	2,103	6,352	6,594	4,663	5,011	44,872	45,050
4th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	82	82	74	75	72	73	59	60	68	64	88	87
Mathematics	73	78	59	70	68	77	39	47	56	62	80	84
Enrollment	60,136	59,450	867	832	2,269	2,160	6,538	6,469	4,539	4,814	45,922	45,172
5th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	83	84	75	77	77	76	59	62	67	68	89	90
Mathematics	72	75	60	65	69	74	37	43	52	56	80	82
Enrollment	60,443	60,306	828	860	2,222	2,244	6,630	6,447	4,405	4,567	46,353	46,188
6th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	83	85	73	78	73	75	56	61	67	68	88	91
Mathematics	72	76	60	61	69	76	37	40	55	57	79	82
Enrollment	63,118	61,315	959	853	2,268	2,103	7,012	6,594	4,114	5,011	48,756	45,050
7th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	84	85	77	77	74	74	56	58	66	66	89	89
Mathematics	73	78	58	69	69	75	35	43	55	61	81	86
Enrollment	65,289	63,932	1,020	974	2,339	2,260	7,051	7,045	4,101	4,211	50,775	49,441
8th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	84	84	75	76	77	79	56	62	68	67	89	88
Mathematics	73	74	56	59	72	74	38	39	52	55	81	81
Enrollment	67,003	65,651	1,029	1,018	2,284	2,358	7,285	6,995	3,988	4,217	52,415	51,049
10th Grade	All Students		American Indian		Asian		Black		Hispanic		White	
	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07	05-06	06-07
Reading	74	74	60	60	60	55	39	39	51	47	81	81
Mathematics	70	70	51	50	64	60	28	25	46	43	78	78
Enrollment	72,876	71,709	1,043	1,081	2,582	2,591	6,642	6,565	3,552	3,782	59,050	57,688

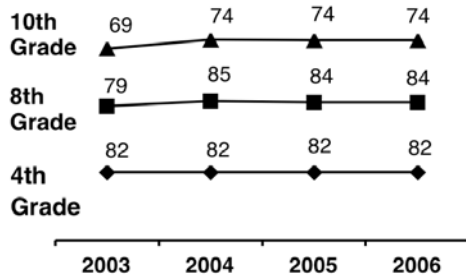
2006-07 Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examinations and Wisconsin Alternate Assessment for Students with Disabilities

Percent of Students Scoring Proficient and Advanced

3rd Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	55	82	50	86	67	89
Mathematics	56	75	53	77	57	82
Enrollment	4,088	55,528	8,088	51,528	21,475	38,141
4th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	55	83	52	87	67	89
Language Arts	54	78	56	80	62	85
Mathematics	60	79	54	81	61	85
Science	51	78	58	81	60	86
Social Studies	75	92	81	93	84	95
Enrollment	3,959	55,491	8,327	51,123	20,734	38,716
5th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	58	86	53	89	69	91
Mathematics	53	77	46	80	57	84
Enrollment	3,755	56,551	8,663	51,643	20,518	39,788
6th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	57	86	51	91	71	91
Mathematics	55	78	43	81	58	84
Enrollment	3,396	57,919	8,559	52,756	20,655	40,660
7th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	56	86	49	91	70	91
Mathematics	58	79	42	85	62	87
Enrollment	3,159	60,773	9,149	54,783	20,785	43,147
8th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	56	86	49	90	71	89
Language Arts	25	64	26	69	42	71
Mathematics	53	75	37	81	56	84
Science	37	76	40	81	55	84
Social Studies	57	83	52	88	67	90
Enrollment	2,882	62,769	9,555	56,096	20,859	44,792
10th Grade	English Language Learners	English Proficient	Students with Disabilities	Nondisabled	Economically Disadvantaged	Not Economically Disadvantaged
Reading	27	76	33	81	54	82
Language Arts	32	72	28	78	50	79
Mathematics	35	71	29	77	47	78
Science	30	73	37	77	48	80
Social Studies	39	77	39	82	55	83
Enrollment	2,506	69,203	9,761	61,948	18,393	53,316

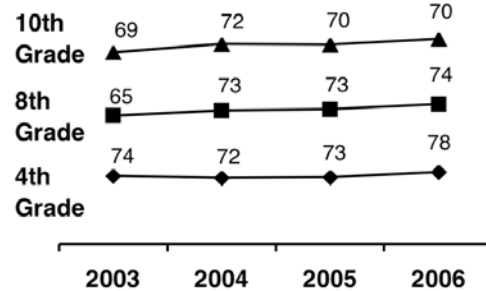
Wisconsin Student Assessment System Performance for All Students — 2003-04 to 2006-07

WKCE/WAA Reading Performance



Percent of students scoring proficient and advanced

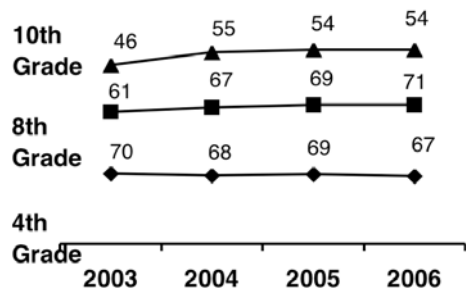
WKCE/WAA Math Performance



Percent of students scoring proficient and advanced

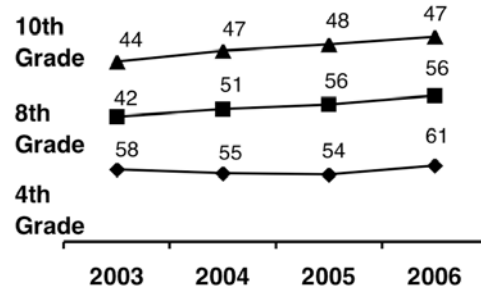
Wisconsin Student Assessment System Performance for Economically Disadvantaged Students — 2003-04 to 2006-07

WKCE/WAA Reading Performance



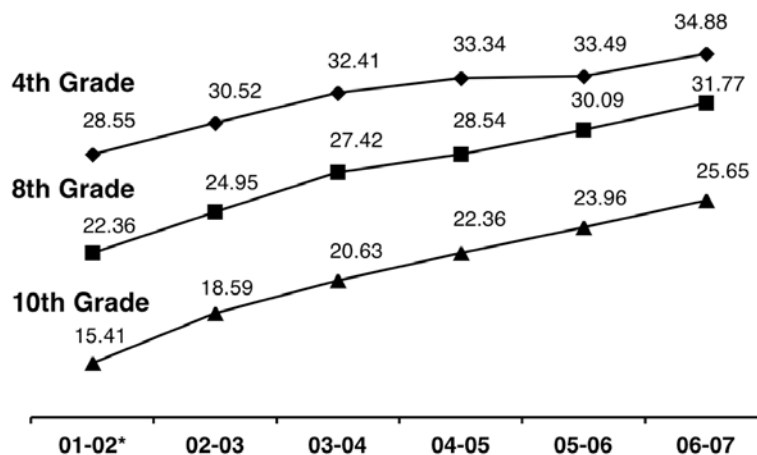
Percent of students scoring proficient and advanced

WKCE/WAA Math Performance



Percent of students scoring proficient and advanced

Percentage of WKCE/WAA Test-Takers Who Are Economically Disadvantaged



* Assessments administered in spring.